

Message Text

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S E C R E T USUN 3240

NODIS

FROM: LOS DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PLOS
SUBJ: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH HEAD OF INDIAN LOS DELEGATION
JAGOTA

1. THE SECRETARY STRESSED THAT IT APPEARED TO HIM THAT,
WHILE IMPORTANT ISSUES REMAINED FOR SOLUTION IN COMMITTEE II
AND COMMITTEE III, THESE COULD BE SOLVED SOON AND THAT THE
MAIN PROBLEMS WERE IN COMMITTEE I. HE INDICATED THAT THE US
WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO GIVE UP THE DUAL-ACCESS SYSTEM OF
EXPLITATION, THAT A QUOTA SYSTEM WAS OQTSIDE OUR NEGOTIATING

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 209152

FLEXIBILITY, AND THAT OUR POSITION ON VOTING IN THE COUNCIL

WOULD BE VERY TOUGH. HE INDICATED THAT WE WOULD STUDY METHODS FOR MAKING THE ENTERPRISE MORE VIABLE, SINCE THAT SEEMED TO BE THE PRINCIPAL STUMBLING BLOCK FOR THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THE AREA IN WHICH HE FELT THEIR VIEWS WERE REASONABLE. THE SECRETARY EMPHASIZED THAT FOR THE MOMENT HE HAD NO SOLUTIONS TO THESE PROBLEMS, BUT WISHES TO STUDY THEM HOPEFULLY BEFORE RETURNING TO NEW YORK IN A FEW WEEK.

2. DR. JAGOTA AVOIDED SUBSTANCE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, BUT COMPLAINED THAT THE REVISED SENT WAS PREPARED IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF SECRECY AND WITHOUT FULL CONSULTATION WITH ALL DELEGATIONS. HE SAID HE FEELS THAT THE REACTION TO THE TEXT AND RESENTMENT OF THE GROUP OF 77 IS NOW PAST ITS PEAK AND THAT THE GROUP OF 77 IS READY FOR SERIOUS FINAL NEGOTIATIONS. HE IMPLORED THE SECRETARY TO HAVE THE US AVOID THE THREAT OF UNILATERAL ACTION AS A TACTIC IN THE NEGOTIATIONS BECAUSE IT TENDED TO HARDEN POSITIONS IN THE GROUP OF 77. HE PLEADED THAT THE BEST APPROACH TO THE PROBLEMS OF COMMITTEE I NOW IS FOR ALL DELEGATIONS TO PUT THEIR CARDS ON THE TABLE AND WORK OUT FAIR AND EQUITABLE SOLUTIONS. HE REFERRED OBLIQUELY TO THE PROPOSAL HE HAD MADE TO THE UNITED STATES TEAM IN JULY OF A ROTATING OR STAGGERED-ACCESS SYSTEM IN WHICH NO SITE WOULD BE DEVELOPED BY STATES OR COMPANIES UNTIL THE CORRESPONDING SITES WERE DEVELOPED BY THE ENTERPRISE.

3. THE SECRETARY AGREED THAT WE WOULD NOT USE THE THREAT OF UNILATERAL LEGISLATION FOR TACTICAL PURPOSES, BUT STRESSED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR DELEGATIONS TO SOBERLY ASSESS THE LIKELIHOOD THAT, IN THE ABSENCE OF GREATER PROGRESS MOST URGENTLY NEEDED, SUCH LEGISLATION WAS INEVITABLE. THE SECRETARY EMPHASIZED THAT, IF OUR MAIN OBJECTIVES WERE MET IN COMMITTEE I, WE WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BE FLEXIBLE, POSITIVE, AND CONSTRUCTIVE. HE HOPED THAT WE COULD NEGOTIATE THE SYSTEM OF EXPLOITATION FIRST SO AS TO IMPROVE THE CLIMATE AND ACCEPTABILITY OF THE REVISED SENT AND GIVE OTHER DELEGATIONS A MORE POSITIVE INCENTIVE FOR THE FINAL NEGOTIATIONS

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 209152

ON THE QUESTION OF VOTING IN THE COUNCIL.

4. DR. JAGOTA DID NOT RAISE ANY SPECIFIC SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES IN COMMITTEE I: AND THE OVERALL TONE OF HIS COMMENTS MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE BELIEVES THE GROUP OF 77 IS ENTITLED TO EXPECT THE UNITED STATES TO MAKE THE NEXT MAJOR MOVES IN THEIR DIRECTION. THOUGH HE WAS PLANNED TO ACCEPT THE DUAL ACCESS SYSTEM, HIS

REQUEST FOR US FLEXIBILITY IS INTENDED TO LAY THE
GROUNDWORK FOR A RESTRUCTURING OF THE DUAL-ACCESS
SYSTEM,HPROBABLY IN THE DIRECTION OF HIS IDEAS OF
STAGGERED OR ROTATING ACCESS.

5. COMMITTEE II:HTHZ EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WAS BRIEF
DR. JAGOTA POINTED OUT THAT ON THE QUESTION OF THE
HIGH-SEAS STATUS OF THE ECONOMIC ZONE, THE US WWS IN
THE MINORITY. THE SECRETARY STRESSED THE NEED TO FIND
PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS, PERHAPS BY SPECIFYING THZ RIGHTS
OF STATES IN THE ECONOMIC ZONE. DR. JAGOTA OBJECTED TO
THE US DEMAND THAT COMPULSORY DISPUTE SETTLEMENT APPLY
IN THE ECONOMIC ZONE. THE SECRETARY DID NOT INDICATE
ANY FLEXIBILITY ON THAT POINT.H THE MEETING ENDED BEFORE
COMMITTEE III ISSUES COULD BE DISCUSSED.
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